

Duke Faculty Club
Annual Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2008

Attendance: Entire board of directors, Meg Pomerantz, Eamonn Lanigan, Dana, Marc, Kelly, and 14 DFC members.

Phil Singer welcomed all attendees, and mentioned that the annual meeting is required by DFC by-laws. Its primary purpose is to present a budget for the next fiscal year, and to get feedback from membership. The proposed budget was distributed, and demonstrated a 3% dues increase from 2007-08, asking for a \$775 contribution from all member families.

The attending members asked the following questions:

- *What is current membership?* Currently we have approximately 810 memberships. The board is basing the \$775 with an expectation of 780 for FY 2008-09. Tom Metzloff explained the history of membership numbers and that the goal of the board is to present a balanced budget.
- *What is summer camp attendance and participation?* One hundred sixty individuals, with 60% members and 40% non-members. There was a question about non-members attending camp in the place of members. Meg was explained that members have the first chance to register, and that our long term goal would be to fill camp with members, but until that happens, non-members would be allowed to attend.

Other items of discussion included:

- *Clarification about the new assistant director position was requested.* It was explained that the assistant director is an investment in the future, and that expected revenue and value would exceed cost.
- *Questions about strategies to increase membership were discussed.* Creative ideas to get more prospective members on the DFC 'campus' were suggested.
- Ideas about different types of membership were also discussed, and the board agreed that this issue would be revisited in the upcoming year. Discussion of this issue, and others, is available for viewing on the DFC website where minutes of all meetings are posted.
- The board is interested in learning about value of membership and price sensitivity. *How sensitive are members about increases?*
- The DFC is a "good deal" compared to other area clubs and in general, for services offered.
- What available cash exists?
- *There was discussion about other ways to market the Club.* Suggestions included: publications, free passes, alumni contact, and more notice at employees' orientation to Duke.
- *There were a couple comments about the fitness facilities.* One was a question about whether the facility could open earlier in the morning, for those whose schedules start earlier than our opening hour. It was agreed that we would look at

this. There were questions about liability. Another concern is that the early hours are the times when the fitness area is cleaned. All of this will be discussed further at future board meetings.

- The name of the Club was raised and there were some strong opinions expressed. It was a good discussion, and it was agreed that we would consider names showing that the Club is more inclusive.
- -The Strategic Long Range Plan came up and it is hoped that we will get regular members involved in the discussions of the same. Volunteers would be welcomed to a committee on this subject.
- A call for board members was made. Elections are coming!
- A question was asked about whether we might get help from the University if we renovated the Club. Some see the Club as an attraction to those we are recruiting. We will discuss possibilities with Duke at the appropriate time. We are not a tax-deductible organization (501-C-3), but a person could make a gift to the Club for whatever s/he wanted.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.